



Vulnerability and adaptation to food insecurity and poverty in Kenya

Author(s): Oluoko-Odingo AA
Year: 2011
Journal: Annals of The Association of American Geographers. 101 (1): 20-Jan

Abstract:

Poor and hungry populations are less resilient to stress and disasters and rely a great deal on the natural environment, as they lack the capacity and the resources required to recover from disasters. The current projected climatic change is likely to have a great impact among food-insecure and poor populations due to the projected effects on food availability, water resources, and health, as well as accessibility to infrastructural services, which is minimal, if not lacking completely, among vulnerable and poor households. This article discusses livelihoods and ways of reducing vulnerability to climate change-related disasters to increase adaptation to future impacts of climate change in Nyando and similar medium potential areas of Kenya, where major impacts are expected. The study used both primary and secondary data; used various sampling techniques; and employed analytical techniques such as multiple correlation and regression analysis, stepwise multiple regression analysis, principal components analysis, factor analysis, and cluster analysis. The findings of this research revealed that in terms of food security, poverty was the main contributor to food insecurity, although climate complicated the issue, with the health of the farmer and her experience emerging as the most important in the fight against food insecurity among smallholder farmers. As part of the conclusion, it was recommended that to deal with food insecurity and poverty, policies must emphasize increased food production using suitable environmental conservation techniques to adapt to climate change while also encouraging sustainable livelihood systems. Key Words: food security, livelihoods, poverty, resilience, vulnerability.

Source: Ask your librarian to help locate this item.

Resource Description

Communication:

resource focus on research or methods on how to communicate or frame issues on climate change; surveys of attitudes, knowledge, beliefs about climate change

A focus of content

Communication Audience:

audience to whom the resource is directed

Policymaker, Public, Researcher

Exposure :

weather or climate related pathway by which climate change affects health

Climate Change and Human Health Literature Portal

Extreme Weather Event, Food/Water Security, Food/Water Security

Extreme Weather Event: Drought, Flooding

Food/Water Security: Agricultural Productivity, Food Access/Distribution

Geographic Feature: 

resource focuses on specific type of geography

None or Unspecified

Geographic Location: 

resource focuses on specific location

Non-United States

Non-United States: Africa

African Region/Country: African Country

Other African Country: Kenya

Health Impact: 

specification of health effect or disease related to climate change exposure

General Health Impact, Malnutrition/Undernutrition

Mitigation/Adaptation: 

mitigation or adaptation strategy is a focus of resource

Adaptation

Population of Concern: A focus of content

Population of Concern: 

populations at particular risk or vulnerability to climate change impacts

Low Socioeconomic Status, Workers

Resource Type: 

format or standard characteristic of resource

Research Article

Resilience: 

capacity of an individual, community, or institution to dynamically and effectively respond or adapt to shifting climate impact circumstances while continuing to function

A focus of content

Timescale: 

time period studied

Climate Change and Human Health Literature Portal

Time Scale Unspecified

Vulnerability/Impact Assessment:

resource focus on process of identifying, quantifying, and prioritizing vulnerabilities in a system

A focus of content